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January 14, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I would like to take this time to urge you to please uphold the settlement that was reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice on November 2, 2001. This case has been dragging on for nearly three years. I see no reason to prolong it further. There was obviously a great deal of effort put into negotiating this settlement. The settlement quite adequately addresses the issues of concern.

There is no reason to scrutinize this issue any further, especially since the Federal government has already agreed to terms. I thought that the initial settlement was too harsh on Microsoft to begin with. I would really hate to see any further legal action. Microsoft actually had to concede more than they initially desired in the settlement, but the American economy was more important to Microsoft's leaders than a few details listed in the settlement. Microsoft has agreed to share a lot of their coding and internal Windows interface information, making it easier for their competitors to come up with their own products. They are also creating a Technical Committee to oversee Microsoft's compliance of the settlement terms. This is all more than reasonable, especially given their huge contribution to our nation's economy.

Thank you for your time. Please respect the settlement. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Nancy C. Cocke